













The Century Company,  
Union Square, New York



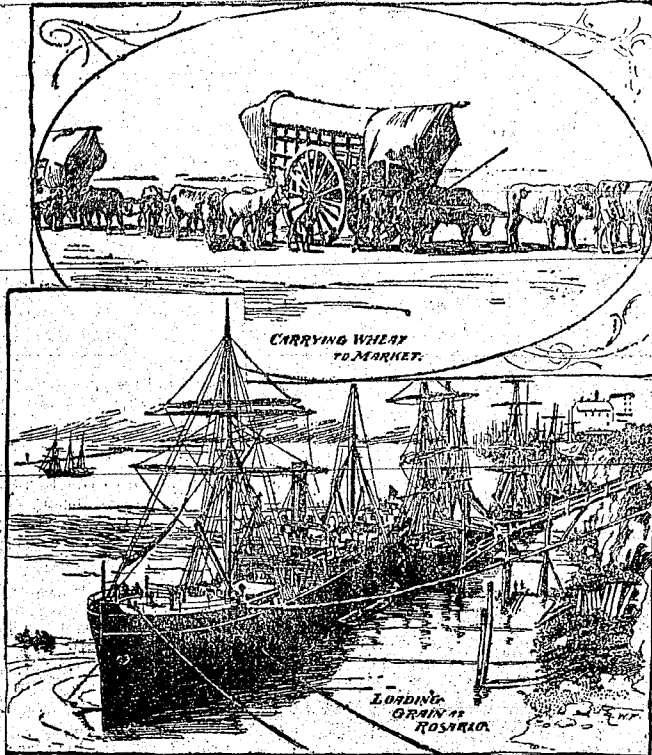




# Wheat Growing in the Argentine Republic

NOT many years ago wise men said that grain could never be grown to any extent in the Argentine Republic. The country was then importing millions of dollars' worth of wheat every year, and the farmers who were pasturing stock on what are now the principal wheat fields were eating flour shipped from the United States and Ohio. Today the Argentine has to a large extent the wheat trade of South America, and is shipping wheat to Europe. It plants millions of acres every year and it produces from thirty to eighty million bushels a season according to the weather and to the invasions of the locusts. When the Argentine has a good crop the prices of wheat in the European markets are affected and our farmers often get less for their wheat in consequence. In the last year or so flour mills have been springing up and the Argentine has now more than 500 flour mills, many of which use machinery imported from the United States. The grain-producing area of the Argentine increases every year.

In the United States the average yield of wheat per acre, taking the whole country, is from twelve to thirteen bushels. That of the Argentine is not over ten. In England, where the soil is more carefully studied and cared for, the average is twenty-nine bushels per acre, in Holland twenty-five bushels and in France eighteen. The most of the wheat of the Argentine is raised by Italian immigrants, many of whom farm the land on shares. They do their work in the roughest and most slovenly way. Much of the wheat is sown on the ground as it is first plowed, the grain being dropped among the clods. Other farmers drag brush over the field and some of the better farmers use the harrow. The plow is done with bullocks, who drag the plow through the furrows by means of a yoke attached to their horns. The only idea of the man seems to be to get the wheat into the ground and then sit down and wait for the crop. The farmers do not seem to care for anything but their wheat crop. Most of them have no gardens. They run their accounts at the nearest grocery and make annual settlements when they sell their wheat. Most



of them drink to excess, and few have any thought beyond this one crop. The result is that the failure of a crop means partial starvation. The city of Rosario is the Chicago of South America. It is the chief wheat market of the Argentine Republic. It ships thousands of tons of wheat, corn and linseed every week. Rosario is situated on the Parana river about 200 miles by land from Buenos Aires. It is 220 miles by water from the city and about as far inland from the Atlantic Ocean as Pittsburgh. Ocean steamers sail for 200 miles up the Rio de la Plata past Buenos Aires into the mouth of the Parana, and then for about 300 miles up the river to Rosario. Rosario itself is one of the thriving towns of the Argentine. It was founded about 175 years ago, but what raising in the Argentine gave it a great boom, and within the last

ten years it has almost trebled its population. It has now about 100,000 people. It does a big wholesale and retail business, but the most of its money comes from wheat. The wheat is bagged on the farm. The cars carry it to the edge of the bluff, and Italian laborers take the bags and vessels into chutes leading to the piers. The bags fly down one after the other at the rate of several to the minute. At harvest time the wheat becomes congested at Rosario. The railroads have more than they can do to carry the crop, and almost all other traffic has to be suspended. The result is that the wheat is piled up in bags at the stations and left there until it can be shipped. There are no barges in the Argentine. The weather is such that the stock feeds out of doors the year around. There is no chance for the farmer to store his wheat in barns

and he has to rely upon the railroads for getting it to the markets. The wheat is carried to the cars from such farms as are far from the railroad in bulk carts, the wheels of which are about eight feet high. A load weighing several tons is balanced between a couple of these wheels, and from a dozen to sixteen bullocks are harnessed in front of it. In some few of the large farms modern machinery is used, and the threshing is commonly done with European or American threshers.

The Argentine is subject to droughts, and the crop rises and falls according to the weather. The worst thing, however, that the farmers have to contend with is the locusts. The pests that infest the Argentine are fully as bad as the locust plague with which the Lord afflicted Pharaoh. The only difference was that Pharaoh had his locusts for a few days, but the Argentine seems to be having theirs as a regular thing. The locusts are produced by the millions every year, and a swarm thinks nothing of a flight of 600 miles from its breeding ground through the heart of the wheat country. The locusts appear in great swarms, which often darken the sun if they fly between you and it. They light on everything green and begin eating. The branches of the trees bend down with their weight, and you can hear the crunching of their jaws as they crunch the leaves. They will clean the crops from the fields, eating the grain down to the ground. Sometimes they will take the green wheat from one side of the road and pass by that on the other, and they will eat the grain on the other side of the road. They will clean the crops from the fields, eating the grain down to the ground. Sometimes they will take the green wheat from one side of the road and pass by that on the other, and they will eat the grain on the other side of the road.

This pest of the locust has been so great that the Argentine government has been spending large sums of money to get rid of them. The methods for exterminating them are many and costly. Thousands of dollars are spent every year to kill them. They are caught in traps, and they are killed by means of arsenic, and they are killed by means of kerosene, and they are killed by means of other methods. The locusts are a great pest to the Argentine, and they are a great pest to the world. They are a great pest to the world, and they are a great pest to the world.

## AMERICAN CHANCES IN ENGLAND

Many Millions There Awaiting Immigrants of the Right Kind.

American immigration to Great Britain sounds strange, yet according to

Alfred C. Harmsworth it is much needed and will be greatly beneficial to both people.

Mr. Harmsworth should be an intelligent authority. He is the proprietor of 20 publications in England, including four daily papers, one of which,

A. C. Harmsworth, London Daily Mail, has the largest circulation in the world—1,250,000 copies.

Speaking of American immigrants to England Mr. Harmsworth says: "You ask why the British empire, with its population of 388,000,000, needs immigrants, and I answer that we don't want them in the bulk, as you do, but that we obviously offer unique opportunities to certain special skilled brain workers. Take Mr. Yorkes, for example. He will make more money in a day intrinsically than he does in a week in Chicago. We have lots of room and money for all your experts in electrical transit. The brains you have given to these matters we have devoted to shipping and gold mining."

"We own and run under our own flag 9,000,000 of tons of shipping, with 2,000,000 under other flags, as against less than 5,000,000 of tons owned by the United States, and we also own most of the best gold fields of the world, with the control of the diamond industry thrown in. But we know practically nothing about electricity, and your people can make all the money they want selling us the wonderful products of American invention and industry. Money is more easily made in our country than in yours."

"We have in that small section of the empire known as Great Britain at least 30,000,000 of people, and though we do not produce Rockefeller's and Astors (I except, of course, my compatriot, Mr. W. W., of that ilk), we have much the richest and quite the best educated of modern peoples. Our American immigrants are profiting by this lack of education to seize industries right and left."

"We shall learn their methods slowly, and meanwhile they are making fortunes while we are paying the price of national apathy in regard to modern methods of transit and manufacture. But our American immigrants are not so successful as they should be, considering the advantages they possess. Take the men who tried to capture our bicycle industry as an example. We were the real pioneers of the cycle trade. Then you came along with an utterly good bicycle, made by the thousand by automatic machinery. You could easily undersell our hand-made article."

"But you suffered at first by sending a machine imported to our national roads and our national prejudices. When I heard your salesmen trying to give goods we did not want at the cycle exhibits, I could not but be struck by your similarity or mind to ours. We use all the time by telling customers what they ought to have, while the German gives them what they want."

"Well, after a time your bicycle men wiser. But what happened? The makers of all kinds of American bicycles, good and bad, mostly bad, who got caught in the slump, dumped their stocks in England and killed

## SHOW A HEALTHY GROWTH.

Eastern Towns Have No Reason to Be Ashamed of Their Progress.

The rapid growth of the cities of New England and middle Atlantic States is perhaps the most striking revelation yet made by the twentieth century census. Of the 459 cities of the country having a population of more than 25,000, about eighty had made a greater numerical gain in the ten years just closed than in the ten years preceding. Since it goes without saying, also, that about the same number grew faster than the average—82.5 per cent—it is interesting to ascertain from a study of the bulletin wherein these cities are considered by sections. Such a study affords an admirable test of urban growth and reveals in a striking manner the remarkable progress of the northwestern part of the country.

Of the eleven cities in the South Atlantic group of States only three grew faster than the average for the country. These were Atlanta, Norfolk and Jacksonville. In the south central region only seven out of eighteen grew faster than the average. In the western group six out of the twelve grew faster than the average. In the north central group, comprising the States north of the Ohio, the old free States, with the addition of Missouri, twenty-two cities out of forty-eight made more than average progress. With the country thus divided into five great sections, none of the four so far mentioned shows a group of cities in which more than half were growing faster than the average. The remaining section is the north Atlantic; in it forty-two out of seventy cities have grown faster than 82.5 per cent. In Connecticut all five of its cities of this grade made a showing above the average and this can be said of no other State. In the nation only those States in which all three of the seven out of ten cities were above the average; in Pennsylvania there were eleven out of eighteen; in Maine one out of one, Portland, and in Massachusetts eleven out of twenty.

It should be borne in mind that the actual growth of the cities in the north central region was faster, due to the presence of a few cities on the great lakes; but the number of cities to show this tendency was, as already indicated,

## PREYED ON BRITISH SHIPS.

Schooner Polly, Oldest Vessel Afloat, Was a Privateer in 1812.

The recent storm on the Atlantic coast, in which so many staunch vessels were lost, calls attention to the famous old schooner Polly, which was one of the more fortunate of the coasting fleet. The Polly is older than most men. It was built in Amesbury, Mass., in 1805. If the hull timbers of the sturdy little sixty-five-ton ship could speak, they might tell many an exciting story of adventure on the salt seas, for they have seen nearly a century of active service. When the Polly had been off the stocks but seven years

## How One Firm Struck Oil.

A New Oil Well on Six Points, Ohio, Recently Gave an Oil-Producing Firm Visions of Limitless Wealth.

This firm drilled a well on the Wakefield farm, near the village. All of the ultragreen shells were lowered safely into the well except the last one, which lodged within twenty-five feet of the surface, and was exploded in the efforts of the shooter to dislodge it. This was considered unfortunate, but to the amazement of the men the oil began to gush forth in a manner which promised to make it the biggest well in the history of the oil business. The now was so strong that the derrick was almost instantly deluged from top to bottom, and it soon caught fire from the boiler and was burned to the ground.

## SHOPPING IN LILIAN.

In the Opinion of Lilian Bell Earth Holds No Greater Pleasure.

Lilian Bell gives the result of her shopping experiences abroad. In "Ladies' Home Companion" in an interesting paper entitled "Shopping in the Great Cities of Europe." Of Paris, the most delighted of all cities for the woman who would buy, she says: "The greatest pleasure to be found in this vale of tears, the shops, with the exception of the Louvre, the Bon Marche and one or two of the large department stores of similar scope, are all small, tiny, in fact, and exploit but one or two things. A tiny shop for fans will be next to a milliner who makes a specialty of nothing but gauze theater bonnets. Perhaps next will come a linen store, where the windows will have nothing but the most fascinating embroidery, handkerchiefs and neck-

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

THOUGHTS OF CALM REFLECTION.

A Pleasant, Interesting, and Instructive Lesson, and Where 'Tis May Be Found—A Beamed and Concise Review of the Same.

In the lesson for Jan. 27, found in Matt. 22:37-46, Christ's teaching the Pharisees. He silenced them once by asking whether John's baptism was of heavenly or earthly origin (Matt. 21:23-27). Then he warned them in parables (Matt. 21:28-32). The Pharisees then endeavored to find some new method of outwitting him. First they sent inquirers who asked whether it was lawful for Jews to pay the imperial tribute of Rome, and were wonderfully answered (Matt. 22:15-22). Then the Sadducees sought to confuse Jesus by proposing an imaginary case of a woman who had survived seven husbands. The question, whose wife she should be in the resurrection was an attempt at a petitio ad absurdum; for the Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection. It was like a good many questions that are asked to-day by irreverent and mocking skeptics concerning the Bible and heaven. Jesus answered, as the words seem at first, mildly, but in reality with the most scathing rebuke. "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God," a charge which no Jew, even a Sadducee, could listen to calmly. "For the resurrection of the dead, ye have not given in marriage, but are as angels in heaven. Have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? 'God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.' An argument that appeals severely at all to many modern readers but forcibly to a Jewish audience. Then came the third question, this one by another Pharisee, concerning the great commandment of the law—this lesson.

## Stage Jokers.

In a performance of "The Lady of the Lake," the actor who took the part of Roderick Dhu was known to be in pecuniary difficulties. When Roderick Dhu gave the line, "I am Roderick Dhu," Fitzgibbon responded, "Yes, and your name's due, too." On the production of a piece called "The Spy," the early acts showed that it was going to prove a failure. So when at a certain point a character had to rush on and shout, "Five hundred pounds for the spy," the author-actor, who was concealed behind a back curtain and cried, "It's yours, copyright, manuscript, and parts!" That was the end of the performance.

## China Rich in Coal Deposits.

China contains some of the richest coal deposits in the world. Last fall Professor Drake, of Tientsin, visited the coal fields in the province of Shansi, which were examined by Baron von Richthofen in 1870, and found that they are of immense extent. The coal area is said to be greater than that of Pennsylvania and the anthracite coal alone contained in these fields has been estimated at 100,000,000,000 tons. The Shansi coal beds are so thick and lie so uniformly in a horizontal position that the practicability has been suggested of running long lines of railroad tunnels through the beds so that the cars can be loaded in the mines all ready for distant transportation.

## No Lady Should Listen to the Gossip of her Servant Girl, or Repeat it, but Nearly Every Lady Does It.

Some men acquire that tired feeling from looking for an easy job.

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## Explanatory.

"A lawyer," not a student, but a legal expert, a man accustomed to dealing with difficult questions in technical matters. The word "tempting" in this verse is misleading. The idea is that of testing, and the lawyer may have had no intent in asking the question. His inquiry, likely enough, was a purely scholastic or academic one—a question on which scholars differed, or he wanted to hear what this famous rabbi had to say about it. There is nothing to show that in asking he had a personal interest in the answer as applicable to his own conduct.

## What is the great commandment of the law?

"A familiar question at that time. We can scarcely appreciate how much of the intellectual horizon of the Jews in the time of Christ was bounded by the interpretation of the law of Moses. Their learned men spent years in wrangling over differences of opinion and interest in the discussions extended even to the people, little as the unlearned could understand of the matters at issue. The question as to the leading commandment perhaps referred to the division of the law into ceremonial, ethical and religious duties—acts of sacrifice and cleansing, acts of right dealing toward men, acts of obedience and worship toward God. The discussion is much older than that of the Pharisees. It is found in the Old Testament; and it has not ceased even to-day.

## "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God,"

etc., is quoted from Deut. 6: 5, part of the famous Shema—the passage beginning "Hear, O Israel (Heb. Shema Yisrael) the Lord our God is one Lord." In the Shema, the word "one" is interpreted as a literal command in Deut. 6: 8, these words and the following verse were not only taught to every Jewish child and daily repeated in every Jewish household, but were written upon bits of parchment, and enclosed in a small leather case, even upon the forehead or arm of every Jew; and in obedience to Deut. 6: 9, a little box containing these sentences was attached to the jamb of the door of every house, the residents saluting it as they passed in and out. That is to say, it was the most familiar verse in the Bible and in all literature to the Jewish people. It was a command universally recognized, instead of turning up in any discussion of ceremony vs. justice or sacrifice vs. honesty, as he was expected to do.

## This second commandment is quoted from Lev. 19: 18. It was by no means a favorite or a prominent saying as was the Shema; though it is a perfectly familiar. That Jesus puts it second only to the love of God shows how low he rated moral duties.

It is most interesting to learn from Mark 12: 32-34 that the scribe or lawyer immediately agreed with the statement of Jesus that Jesus told him "Thou art not far from the kingdom of God." One wonders if the inquirer would a little farther and entered the kingdom. If so it is a case of conversion through ethical preaching. How marvelously Jesus suited his answers to the intellectual and spiritual capacity of his questioners.

## Jesus' question concerning the descent of the Messiah from David was calculated to awaken discussion concerning the nature of the Messiah. If he was to be a descendant of David how could he be the book of David, speak of him as Lord? The prevalent thought of Christ's time failed to give due weight to the Old Testament passages touching on the intimate relation of the Messiah to God. Jesus desired to bring the question up for men to think about, not merely for that day, but for future days and years after his departure.

## Next Lesson.—Parable of the Ten Virgins, Matt. 25: 1-13.

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## When eating takes place on the stage, the temptations to play tricks with the food are naturally great.

In Henry V. the trick which imitates the brazen giant Pistol was to eat, in an occasion at Sadler's Wells the Phidias of the evening gave him a real onion, and he had no choice but to struggle through it, though the tears coursed down his fat cheeks.

## MICHIGAN SOLONS.

The House was in session by a short time Monday night, the only business being the reading of a memorial from the city of Farmington by taking in half the section lying east and known at present as Farmington Junction. Representative Gordon noticed a bill to regulate the tolls to be charged by telegraph companies in the State. He will fix the tolls at 25 cents for ten words and one cent for each additional word to any point in the State. Representative Ames has a bill to provide a per diem compensation of not more than \$3.50 a day for persons isolated by health officers on account of contagious diseases. In the Senate Goodell offered the time-honored resolution for the appointment of a committee of three to investigate the Detroit house of correction and make a general report on its condition, etc. Senator Loomis introduced a bill which is calculated to prevent overhanging by companies outside of the State who have no local assets. Senator McMillan of Detroit was re-elected Tuesday afternoon, being the unanimous choice of the Republican majority. He received eighty-five votes in the House and thirty-one in the Senate. Thomas A. Barkworth of Jackson was given a complimentary vote by the Democratic majority. He received one vote in the Senate and ten in the House. Five members of the Legislature were absent when the vote was taken. Several bills of unusual interest were introduced. Among them are measures prohibiting Sunday performances at opera houses; levying a tax of \$500 on every child between 16 and 18 years of age, increasing from 3 to 5 per cent the tax on the gross Michigan earnings of express companies; providing severe penalties for the docking of horses; prohibiting the sale of alum baking powders or other food products containing alum; and prohibiting the adulteration of white lead.

## In joint convention at noon on Wednesday the State Legislature verified the vote taken in the Senate and House the previous day and Senator James McMillan was formally declared elected. United States Senator for the term of six years from March 4 next. Representative Gordon gave notice of an anti-cigarette bill which contains some rigid provisions. A tax of \$200 a year is provided, with a requirement for original package of such size as to make the law practically prohibitive without being in any way oppressive.

## Van Buren County, the great grape producer of the State, wants relief from the local option liquor law to the extent of making it legal for its citizens to manufacture wine for sale at wholesale. Another liquor bill introduced on Thursday last, prohibiting sleeping and buffing saloons to pay a minimum retail liquor license of \$500. Bills making ten hours the limit of a day's work for pharmacists and assistant pharmacists; prohibiting the trading stamp industry; exempting from taxation all bonds or other obligations issued by taxicab or bus boards of education, and increasing from five to seven the number of justices of the Supreme Court, were also introduced.

## Lilla Passed—House.

Chandler—Amending charter of the village of Mackinaw.

Totten—Authorizing township of South Ann to borrow \$10,000 to rebuild a bridge.

Gad Smith—Authorizing trustees of Peter White library at Marquette to sell or mortgage trust property to erect a building.

McMullen—Legalizing \$10,000 floating debt of the city of Petoskey.

Gad Smith—Authorizing school district No. 1 of Ishpeming to borrow \$45,000 for the erection of school buildings.

Boyd—Changing name of Hubert Clark to Hubert Miller.

Railton—Authorizing school district No. 1 of Hancock to borrow \$15,000.

Kerr—Authorizing village of Laurium to borrow \$100,000 for street improvements.

Bolton—Legalizing certain bonds of the village of Gaylord.

Combs—Amending dissolution law so as to give the Detroit Homeopathic College a portion of State endowments.

Seely—Enlarging city of Farmington.

Combs—Authorizing village of Addison to hold special election to vote on proposition relative to schools.

Gree—Detaching certain territory from Mackinac Heights and attaching same to the village of Nottawa.

Rich—Legalizing \$10,000 bonds of the village of Garfield.

W. A. Reed—Changing name of Carlton M. Oothout to Carlton M. Dodge.

Moore—Legalizing bond issue of town of St. Clair to issue of \$10,000 to building bridge across Pine river.

Kerr—Changing name of Bartholomew Jano to Bartholomew Milano.

Bonser—Authorizing village of Pinconning to refund a bonded indebtedness of \$7,000.

Chandler—Authorizing Commissioners of Mackinac Island Park to grant 20-year lease for electric lighting and water works.

Humphrey—Fixing salary of stenographer of twentieth judicial circuit at \$1,500 a year.

Bills Passed—Senate.

Gad Smith—Authorizing trustees of Peter White library to sell or mortgage trust property to erect a building.

House—Raising salary of Allegan from \$800 to \$1,500.

Hastings—Legalizing \$25,000 of Traverse City water works bonds.

Legalizing \$7,500 worth of bonds issued by village of Gaylord, Otsego County.

Legalizing \$15,000 worth of bonds in St. Clair County.

Authorizing village of South Ann to borrow money.

Nichols—Providing that patients who have been supported in the Iowa asylum for one year by any county shall thereafter be supported by the State. Immediate effect.

Moore—Allowing the circuit judges in St. Clair County to employ extra stenographic help. Immediate effect.

Seely—To change the boundaries of the village of Farmington. Immediate effect.

Gee—To detach territory from village of Muskegon Heights and attach same to Norton township. Immediate effect.

Relative to the school district in Addison, Lenawee County. Immediate effect.

To change name of Bartholomew Jano to Bartholomew Milano.

To legalize bonds of Garfield, Newaygo County. Immediate effect.

Feller—To provide two voting precincts in Harrison township, Delta County.

Moore—To repeal act creating St. Clair County jury commissioners.

Kerr—Authorizing village of Laurium to borrow \$100,000.

Bills Introduced—House.

McCall—Revising laws relative to domestic building and loan associations.

McCall—Revising laws relative to religious building and loan associations.

Kerr—Amending law relative to appeals in chancery.

Ames—Creating office of chief clerk in State Board of Health.

Harnaby—Amending law relative to relief of poor.

## THE CHANGE OF LIFE

Is the most important period in a woman's existence. Owing to modern methods of living, not one woman in a thousand approaches this perfectly natural change without experiencing a train of very annoying and sometimes painful symptoms.

These dreadful hot flashes, sending the blood surging to the heart until it seems ready to burst, and the faint feeling that follows, sometimes with chills, as if the heart were going to stop for good, are symptoms of a dangerous, nervous trouble. These hot flashes are just so many calls from nature for help. The nerves are crying out for assistance. The cry should be heeded in time. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was prepared to meet the needs of woman's system at this trying period of her life.

It builds up the weakened nervous system, and enables a woman to pass that grand change triumphantly.

"I was a very sick woman, caused by Change of Life. I suffered with hot flashes, and fainting spells. I was afraid to go on the street, my head and back trembled so. I was entirely cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. JENNIE NOBLE, 6010 Keyser St., Germantown, Pa.

## Occupations Open to Women.

Within the last fifteen years schools have sprung up all over the country for the education of women—education both of a general and a special nature—and now a girl chooses a vocation and fits herself for it with as much care as her brother gives to the preparation for his life-work. But these, I believe, are in the main what may be called "new occupations."

Fifty years ago there were but seven forms of employment open to women—teaching, needlework, work in cotton-mills, keeping boarders, type-setting, book-binding and household service. To-day there is not a profession or calling from the ministry, medicine and law to book-binding, tailoring and street-cleaning, in which women are not engaged and earning good wages.—Woman's Home Companion.

## POLICE OFFICER RESCUED.

Officer A. C. Swanson of the Council Bluffs Force Tells an Interesting Story.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa, Jan. 21, 1901.—(Special.)—Kind-hearted Officer Swanson of the local police force is very popular in this city. He has lived here for seventeen years, and has enjoyed many high offices in social and society work. He is now Vice-President of the "Danebrog" Brotherhood, the largest Danish secret society in America, which combines benevolence with the social features. Owing to the constant exposure and many hours on his feet, which his duty as a Police Officer makes unavoidable, he has become the victim of serious kidney and liver trouble. He was very bad, but has entirely recovered. He gives the story in his own words as follows:

"I have been a sufferer for many years with kidney and liver trouble, and have tried many remedies, some of which have done me very little good, and others which were absolutely worthless. I began to think that there was no help for me, when my nephew gave me a part of a box of Dodd's Kidney Pills which he had left, saying that it would do no harm to try them, as they had certainly fixed him in a very bad way. He gave me help me so much that I felt justified in purchasing more, and I grew slowly better. It took almost two months to effect a complete cure, as mine was a very bad case, but I can cheerfully and truthfully say that I am well now to-day. I am very grateful that Dodd's Kidney Pills were thus brought to my notice."

The wonderful cures effected by Dodd's Kidney Pills in Iowa have created quite a sensation in some parts of the State. There does not seem to be any case of Lame Back, Rheumatism, Kidney or Bladder Trouble which these wonderful Pills cannot cure. They are certainly popular here, and the sale through the local druggists is very large.

## Jealous.

"Oh beautiful lady," exclaimed the clairvoyant, "you have come to find your future husband. Is it not so?" "Not much," replied the beautiful lady. "I have come to find out where my present husband is when he's absent."—Philadelphia Press.

## Coughing Leads to Consumption.

Kenny's Balsam will stop a cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50-cent bottles. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

## Legislation against drunkenness in Belgium dates from 1857. It deals with the drunk and disorderly, supplying liquor to a drunken person or a child under 16.

There are 256 railway stations within a six-mile radius of St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

The best is the cheapest. Carter's Ink is the best, yet it costs no more than the poorest.

The recent census shows that about 12 per cent of the population of the United States is colored.

## EXCURSION RATES

To Western Canada and the United States. Round-trip tickets from New York to San Francisco, via New Orleans, available for 15 days, at \$10.00. For details, see page 10.

For details of rates and conditions, see page 10.

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## A SNOW FANTASY.

Honey-palace summer-long—  
Hive of sweetness and of song—  
Court of golden-gilded bee,  
Home of all felicity,  
Whither fled your guests, and how  
Came these ghosts to haunt you now?

Yet I guess the secret quite,  
Following your pathways white,  
Watching ghostly bees who swarm  
In the wilderness of the storm;  
Born of snow, they gather where  
Now the garden stretches bare.

Silently they come in hosts—  
Snowflake bees and honey-ghosts—  
To this barren garden-blive,  
Where they gladden, labor, thrive;  
And when Spring hides them depart,  
They shall leave a honey-heart.

And blossom, leaf and vine,  
In the sun their sweets shall shine;  
And the summer bees shall know  
Of their brothers of the snow—  
Specter bees, whose frosty wings  
Flutter over fragrant things.  
—Frank Dempster Sherman, in the  
Woman's Home Companion.

## A Terrible Followed.

BY CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS.

In the years between 1870 and 1880, settlers were few and scattered in what is now the fertile and prosperous Aroostook region of northeastern Maine. The red deer had not yet been exterminated before the rifle and the axe of the pioneer, and where the deer lingered, there lingered, too, their hereditary foes, the wolves. Scarcely gathering to the hunt in packs, these wolves were little accounted of by the settlers; but to their stealthy depredations might be charged the vanishing of certain strayed children, or solitary women, or tired travelers.

The following adventure was told me by an old lady, Mrs. Hetty Turner, part of whose childhood was passed in a pioneer's cabin on the head waters of the Aroostook River. Her father, James Atkinson, a widower, devoted his winters to lumbering and his summers to leaving himself at farm out of the wilderness; and Hetty took charge of the cabin, the chickens and the pig. Schooling she had had at her father's home, and her father's small library accompanied her into the backwoods.

"Our nearest neighbors," said Mrs. Turner, "were Cyrus Turner's family, about three miles away. They were on the main Caribou road, while we had settled on Hardwood Ridge, where the land was better. A rough wood-road ran from our place about two miles, all the side of the Caribou road about a mile this side of Turner's."

"Mr. Turner had had a large family before he moved to the Aroostook, but he had lost all but the two eldest boys in an epidemic of diphtheria. Then, in the backwoods, two more children came to them, a boy and a girl. At the time I am telling of, the little boy was between four and five years old, and the little girl perhaps six."

"They took a great fancy to me, and father liked to see them around, so one of their big brothers used to bring them over to our place pretty often to spend the day."

"One sunny September afternoon, when father was off in the woods, I heard the patter of little feet outside the door, and small bits knocking for admittance. It was the two little Turners."

"I asked them where Tom was. Tom was my favorite of their big brothers, and what made him hurry away so. They told they had come all the way alone. They said their father and Tom and Bill were away somewhere, and their mother had gone to sleep, after washing the dinner dishes; and they had wanted to see me just awfully, so they walked."

"Of course, I was pleased at such devotion. I kissed the hot and dusty little faces, and brought out a liberal supply of milk and molasses-cake, which soon disappeared. But presently I thought of the anxiety Mrs. Turner would feel when she found the children were missing. So I decided to walk right back with them, and to depend on getting Mr. Turner or one of the boys to drive me home."

"First, however, I had to do the milking, and then get father's supper ready. I left a note on his plate telling him where I had gone, and then started off with my little visitors. They were very loath to go at first, but I explained to them that soon it would be getting dark in the woods and we should all be frightened."

"Even as I spoke, I noticed, with some uneasiness, that the shadows were growing long. I hurried on at as quick a pace as I thought the little ones could stand, and the first half-mile of our journey was soon left behind."

"Then, however, I had to slacken our speed. Eddie's fat little legs were getting very tired. He had to sit down on a log and rest. Meanwhile, Mamie and I picked blackberries, both for ourselves and Eddie; and when we started on again, I was careful not to go so fast. But it made me uncomfortable to see there was no chance of our reaching the Turners' till after sundown."

"In a little while Eddie began to complain of his foot hurting. I took off his shoe and found a severe stone-bruise; so I wet a couple of leaves in a spring by the roadside, and put them inside his sack. This gave him some relief, but he had to cling to my hand and walk slowly."

"I think we must have been a good mile from the crossroads, when all at once Mamie, who was lifting about, uttering as a bird, stopped short and exclaimed in a frightened voice:

"Look, Hetty, look at the big dog!" "Big dog?" remarked Eddie, looking over his shoulders with much interest.

"When I glanced along the road, I couldn't help giving a little scream of fright. There was a huge wolf following us! He was keeping along the

shady side of the road, and when we stopped he stopped, too, skulking behind a tree.

"When I saw that he was not going to rush right upon us I took courage again. But the children had been frightened by my fear."

"Isn't it a dog, Hetty?" asked Mamie, her eyes getting very big.

"No," said I, "I don't think it is! Come and take hold of my other hand. And I began to drag Eddie forward at a rate that must have hurt his sore foot a good deal."

"But Mamie was not satisfied. 'Is it a wolf?' she asked, with trembling lips. When I was silent, she suddenly burst out crying, and began to run."

"For us to separate would be fatal. The wolf would leave us, and attack her alone."

"I dropped Eddie's hand and sprang after Mamie like a flash, and the poor little fellow, thinking we had both deserted him, cried out in bitter grief, and ran after us as fast as his short legs could carry him. As I caught Mamie, and turned to drag her back toward Eddie, the look of despair and desolation on the little ones' face was such as I can never forget."

"Heavy as he was, I had to pick him up and carry him a little way. I kept tight hold of Mamie with one hand till I explained that if she ran away from Eddie and me the wolf would go right after her and eat her up. After that she kept tight hold of my petticoat."

"Meanwhile the animal had skulked a little nearer. He was waiting for the dark to come. As there were three of us, and I was pretty tall, he didn't like to spring on us in the daylight. I looked through the tree-tops at the western sky, and my heart sank as I saw that it would be dark before we could get to our journey's end."

"We made desperate haste now, and whenever Eddie began to give out I would pick him up in my arms and struggle on till my own breath quite failed me. The shadows kept deepening, and as they deepened that dread full form behind us kept drawing nearer."

"At last, as I set Eddie down for the third or fourth time, the wolf made a short run forward, as if to spring upon us."

"Eddie, catching a near glimpse of his cruel eyes and long, uncovered teeth, began to cry at the very top of his voice, while Mamie and I both screamed. The noise appeared to disturb the sneaking brute somewhat, and he drew back."

"But as we hurried onward Eddie continued his shrill wailing, and stumbled along so blindly, amid his tears, that I was in despair. Nothing I could say made any difference, and it was oh, so slow, dragging the poor little fellow along; and at last I just burst out crying myself."

"Of course that started Mamie, and I began to feel as if we should just have to give up. You see, the strain was beginning to tell on my nerves so that I wasn't quite myself."

"However, it was just that crying of Eddie's that saved us, under God's providence. I am sure the noise we all made bothered the wolf so that he kept waiting for it to get a little darker. And then, which was more important, the sound was carried on the still evening air till it could be distinctly heard on the main Caribou road."

"Tom Turner was tramping wearily homeward along that main road, having been into Caribou on business for his father. As he neared the cross-road a queer sound reached his ears. At first he thought it was an Indian devil screaming, and quickened his steps. Then it came clearer, on a little puff of breeze. It was a child crying terribly."

"Tom Turner forgot his fatigue, and started up the cross-road on a run, swinging his heavy stick. He was not a hundred yards away from us, but hidden from view around a turn of the road, when the wolf, growing bolder, crept quite close to our heels, with a terrible low snarl."

"At that sound my knees fairly gave way beneath me. As I sank in the dust and stones I hardly noticed the shrill screams of the children, but I remember giving them a shove ahead and telling them to run. Then I shut my eyes, and expected the next instant to feel the wolf's teeth in my throat."

"After lying in this stupor of fear for perhaps half a minute, which seemed to me an age, I felt a dim surprise. Then the horrible thought occurred to me that the wolf had sprung upon the children. I leaped to my feet and started wildly around."

"There was no wolf in sight. But—could I trust my eyes? There was Tom stopping up to my side, with both children sobbing in his arms!"

"I caught tight hold of him with both hands, and clung to him, crying harder than I had ever cried before. I presently heard him say: 'Well, Hetty, brace up and come along home, and then I'll hitch up old Bess and drive you back to your place after tea.'"

"When I had wiped my eyes and brushed the dust off my petticoat, we continued our journey without hurrying, although now, as Tom carried Eddie, it was easy to keep up a good pace. Presently I inquired:

"What did you do to the wolf, Tom?"

"Oh, said Tom, I didn't get a chance to do anything to the cowardly blackguard. He was fairly on you, Hetty, and my blood ran cold as I thought he was going to tear you before I could get up. But at the first sound of my yell he turned tail and fled off among the trees like a streak. I let fly my stick, but missed him, and came mighty near hitting you, Hetty!"

"When we reached Mr. Turner's Eddie was asleep in Tom's arms, and Mamie, although dreadfully exhausted, was none the worse for her adventure. But as for me, I just went all to pieces, and acted like a fool."

Even now, although I've never seen a wolf since, except in a dream, I think I'm more afraid of wolves than of any other animal on earth."—Youth's Companion.

## STEEL TIES TRIED.

Expense Against Them, But One Road Finds Them Economical.

Why are not steel ties used on American railroads? This question is often asked by those not initiated into the mysteries of railroad construction, and it is commonly supposed that the reason lies in the susceptibility of the metal to atmospheric changes. This, however, is not the fact. The most important reason for their not being used is their cost compared with wooden ties.

Prices, of course, vary with locality and circumstances, but the fair average cost of a wooden tie may be said to be 60 cents, while an average steel tie as now constructed costs about \$2.50. The wooden tie under ordinary conditions will wear about ten years, and its life may be extended far beyond this period. The life of a steel tie is problematical, but the majority of railroad engineers do not believe it is long enough to balance the increased cost. At the same time, every engineer realizes the fact that the time is coming when the railroads of the country will be driven to the use of steel ties, whether they so desire or not. The forests from which ties come will not last forever, and many of the roads are even now considering what to do in view of the scarcity of the timber.

Knowing that the age of the steel tie is coming, several concerns have for a long time been engaged in the manufacture of steel ties and in experimenting with them. The tie that will be best adapted to general use is probably not yet made, although some manufacturers follow the European forms.

For some years roads all over the Continent have been using steel ties with good results, and accordingly manufacturers in this country are using the foreign roads as arguments to induce American roads to try the steel tie. Some engineers believe, too, that steel does not make as good a tie as wood. With steel ties and road ballast, they say, passengers would think that they were riding on a bed of solid cement on account of the absence of resilient properties. They also believe that difficulty would be experienced in packing the dirt about the steel ties securely enough to prevent the tracks getting out of alignment.

For about six months the Huntington and Broad Top Mountain Railroad in Pennsylvania has been experimenting with the use of steel ties. The tie in use there resembles the "bow" and "plate" tie largely in use in India and South America, and the company has been subjected to it exceptionally heavy traffic. The ties were laid on October 12, 1890. There are forty-four of them and the normal spacing varies from sixteen to thirty inches, the ties having been put in where the wooden ties were removed. Each trough or rail bearer weighs about twenty-five pounds and the tie bearer 60 pounds. The rails are seventy pounds, and are laid with suspended joints spliced with four bolt angle bars, and the track is ballasted with slag.

Since the ties were laid about 1,500,000 tons of freight has passed over them, principally coal cars of 60,000 and 80,000 pounds capacity, hauled by 100-ton engines. The officials claim that the steel ties make a more durable track than wooden ties and reduce the labor of track maintenance by 40 per cent. They also permit an increase of 33 per cent. in the length of the sections. If these deductions are correct it is difficult to see why railroads in general do not adopt the steel tie. —Chicago Times-Herald.

## An Unanswerable Argument.

Dr. D. B. Hill, who lived in Springfield, Ill., from 1836 to 1843, tells this characteristic story of Abraham Lincoln, which was personally acquired: "Once Lincoln was defending a man who was accused of cheating another man in a business deal. Lincoln was arguing before the jury that his client had no intention to defraud when the transaction occurred; in fact, that he never thought he was cheating the man."

"Pointing his finger at Judge Logan, his partner, Lincoln said: 'Any boy you meet in the street knows how to put on his clothes. You all know that Judge Logan is learned in the law, and nobody would accuse him of doing wrong. You will observe he has his shirt on with the wrong side in front. Now, the judge never intended to do that, when he put his shirt on. You see, people do wrong without intending to do so. If my client has done anything wrong, he never intended to do so any more than Judge Logan intended to put on his shirt with the back side in front.'"

"Sure enough, Judge Logan had his shirt on wrong, and the use Lincoln made of his partner's mistake in dress caused his client to get off free." —San Francisco Argonaut.

## Japanese Swords.

The blades of Japanese sabres are formed of a metal prepared from magnetic iron ores and ferruginous sand. The steel is produced in the form of thin laminae, and the workman composes by fixing one of these to the end of an iron rod, which serves as a handle. To these are soldered over sheets until the mass has a length of six to eight inches, a width of two inches and a thickness of one-quarter to four-fifths of an inch. This bar, brought to a white heat, is doubled upon itself and hammered until it has taken its original dimensions. This process is repeated fifteen times. Four similar bars are then soldered together, doubled upon themselves, resoldered and heated, this operation being repeated five times. By this process the superposed layers of metal become so thin that a sabre is estimated to contain at least a thousand sheets of metal. Sometimes alternate layers of iron and steel are soldered together, and thus the blade presents a veined appearance. —London Globe.

## GOWNS FOR EVENING.

DRESSMAKERS TRYING TO FORCE PRINCESS DRESS.

By No Means Becoming to a Great Many Modifications that Are Now Making It Popular—Some of the New Features.

New York correspondence:

NOWING: the ways of stylish dressmakers, it is not surprising to see them making their annual attempt to bring the princess gown into popularity. They feel, apparently, that putting into it one woman whom the cut becomes offsets the dozen who essay the trying fashion and turn out to be more or less horrible examples. The few women whose figures can stand the fashion do look finely in it, and rouse the ambition of their less favored sisters. This winter's attempts have not been so much in the direction of outright princess gowns, as toward modifications. These have made big headway in evening dresses, usually taking the form of a long

group shows the form this fancy takes. Its spangled black lace was set over corn-colored satin, the latter giving tucked yoke, vest and deep bodice belt. Piece lace is another sort that is much used, and necklines and like designs are highly elaborate. The method of their disposal is made clear by the gown remaining in this picture. Above gray cashmere and evert lace were its materials.

Velvet gowns are more than usually numerous. There are so many excellent brands of velvet on the market that a velvet dress is not quite so suggestive of magnificence as it used to be, though it is as rich looking and as becoming as ever. If the weather be mild such a gown may be worn without a wrap. The bolero fitting closely, showing a narrow line of a pretty belt, and changing the under waist, is the usual choice. Now and then the princess cut is followed handsomely. Such was the case in the velvet gown shown at the left in the next picture. Its shade was hunter's green, and embroidered in gold and white silk and edging of noble were its trimmings.

Women will early in the winter used furs in tiny ruffles and edgings are now brought by sharper weather to neck pieces, muffs, and capes. The fur gown usually seems friskish, but it is attempted occasionally nevertheless. One of the examples of this winter was white cloth, with a very deep Spanish flounce of sable, deep fur cuffs, a mink and deep cape collar, the latter lightened with chiffon and lace. A hat of fur with big pink roses over the lace was an accompaniment. The artist puts here a biscuit broadcloth with which went a handsome mink bolero. Possession of such gowns implies ownership of a handsome fur



A QUARTET WITH NEW FEATURES.

princess polonaise over a trained skirt. Often the polonaise is fitted at the waist by tiny graduated tucks that begin under the bust line and continue over the hips.

Since gowns of large size were used in furry weaves in separate skirts, they have made much of an impression. Now they are appearing in gowns, but weaves as the material for entire dresses. Usually a little plain stuff is put with them. Pictured here is one that showed red, brown and gray, the plain portions in the picture representing bands of red. Underleaves like those of these three gowns are worn a great deal, and another much favored sort is clasped close to the hand by bands of black velvet, sometimes jeweled, and either run through a jeweled slide or pinned with pretty stick pins.

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Banished Out of His Seat. In the matter of strategy a woman can get the better of a man every time, in minor affairs, at least. Said a man who is in business down town, and who rides home in a West Philadelphia car during the rush hour, every evening, says the Philadelphia Record: "I usually get a seat for I take the car away down at 4th street. The other evening I was busily reading my paper when a woman got aboard at 12th street. I glanced up slyly, and saw that all the seats were occupied. Hastily as my glance was she caught my eye and that was my finish. Smiling broadly, she came over to where I was sitting and exclaimed: 'Why, how do you do? How are all the folks? I couldn't place the woman to save my life, but I lifted my hat and replied that we were all well. She must be some friend of the fam-

ily. I argued with myself, so I folded up my paper and gave her my seat. After she had settled herself comfortably she looked up at me in a queer sort of way and said, 'Really, I must be your partner. I took you for Mr. Jones. You look so much like him.' But she had the seat, and she kept it. It was a clear case of bunco."



AS PRINCESS CUT, PLAIDS AND FUR ARE EMPLOYED.

remove the waistcoat also. Numerous other devices permit the employment of gilt in quantity. In embroidery it holds its own. The settled figure of this group presents a white cloth gown embroidered in gilt, and quantities of like ornamentation are current. It is plain that the demand for glitter is high when, in addition to this liking for gold, the use of spangles increases. Lace gowns set thick with spangles are rated very handsome, and make a very rich appearance. The first gown of this

## SUGAR KING SPRECKELS.

HE INTRODUCED CUBE SUGAR TO THE AMERICAN MARKET.

How He Persuaded King Kalakaua, of Hawaii, to Form New Cabinet Favorable to Him. Story of His Flight Against the Trust—Once Cornered Sugar.

Clus Spreckels went with his family to Europe, and there entered into an exhaustive study of sugar that has since made him the undisputed master of the business in America. He even became a workman again, working as an ordinary employee at Magdeburg. By 1867 he was again in the refinery business in California, operating, in connection with his brother, the institution which still exists to his honor, the California Sugar Refinery. For this institution he personally directed in New York the building of the machinery, and afterward participated in the training of every employee, as well as in the erecting of the building and the management of the finances. He began with a wooden structure, rather small, adapted strictly to the extent of the current operations, but within three years the building was enlarged four times, and at the end of four years an immense brick building was put up, which with a capacity to turn out 800 tons of sugar per day, still stands on the south bay shore of San Francisco one of the most conspicuous manufactures of the Pacific Coast.

The men who had driven Mr. Spreckels from the Bay Sugar Company soon found they had created a Tarrar. The doughty German applied his great foresight and his close judgment to every phase of the sugar business. He not only operated upon more scientific manufacturing principles, but he reached out into the general field of competition and brought that within his control. At one time he shrewdly cornered all the sugar afloat and almost shut up the doors of his rivals by cutting off the raw supplies, all of which had always to be imported. He invented new processes which reduced the time of making of hard sugar from three weeks to twenty-four hours, and introduced into the American market for the first time the cube and crushed sugars of to-day. His competitors were helpless against his ability and his cunning, and they eventually had no alternative but to surrender.

"The fight, however, went on for a long time—in fact, until, by another of the master-strokes which had given him such ascendancy as he had gained up to that time, Mr. Spreckels went to the Hawaiian Islands and made himself the virtual owner of the sugar-cane growing of the Pacific Ocean. This was in 1876, just after the completion of the five reciprocity treaties between Kalakaua and the United States, admitting Hawaiian sugar free of duty."

"I went to the islands for self-protection," says Mr. Spreckels, "and soon became the largest sugar raiser there." He went over the local situation scientifically with an engineer, before entering into operations. But when he began work it was upon a large scale, forming the Hawaiian Commercial Company, with a paid-up capital of \$2,000,000.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States, in speaking of the "advent of Spreckels" to the Hawaiian Islands, says: "After a refusal on the part of the Hawaiian Cabinet to grant a request of Mr. Spreckels for water privileges, he held a conference in the evening with King Kalakaua and another gentleman, with the result that the next morning the king requested the resignation of each member of the cabinet, and the following day a new cabinet was appointed, which granted Mr. Spreckels his desires."

Gradually the competitors in the local field gave way, and by 1888 Mr. Spreckels was the unquestioned sugar king of the Pacific Coast. But his rivals in his own field served only to bring against his single hand the colossal power of the American Sugar Refineries Company, which has since become known as the Sugar Trust. This company viewed his lucrative business with jealousy, and sought to absorb it. They offered Mr. Spreckels a million dollars for his interests. But Mr. Spreckels did not prove to be the man to be bought out of his independence for the sake of amalgamation with an institution even of such enormous wealth as the Sugar Trust, nor to be ungrateful of the local welfare that was more or less dependent upon his personality. He said that so long as he had a dollar in the world he would keep his refinery running, and would never consent to run into the street men who had faithfully served him, many of them for twenty and twenty-five years.

This was sentiment, and it probably did not seem to be good business to the managers of the trust. But it turned out to be better business for California than the trust or refineries could have intended. The trust attempted to coerce Mr. Spreckels, but it did not know him so well then as it does now.

For awhile Mr. Spreckels was at a decided disadvantage, because of the enormous profits made by the trust on its business in the East and the consequent possibility of selling in California at a loss. But the disadvantage was quickly met. With his usual resourcefulness, Mr. Spreckels conceived the idea of carrying the war into the enemy's own territory. Against the strenuous advice and objections of his friends, who predicted disaster if he attempted to fight the trust, single-handed, he erected an enormous refinery at Philadelphia, which is the largest and most complete in the world, at a cost of \$5,000,000. Mr. Spreckels then fixed prices in all the Eastern markets of the trust, and so soon became such a thorn in its side that the trust made overtures for peace, and the terms finally agreed upon involved the purchase of the



AS PRINCESS CUT, PLAIDS AND FUR ARE EMPLOYED.

By I argued with myself, so I folded up my paper and gave her my seat. After she had settled herself comfortably she looked up at me in a queer sort of way and said, 'Really, I must be your partner. I took you for Mr. Jones. You look so much like him.' But she had the seat, and she kept it. It was a clear case of bunco."

Better a little chiding than a great deal of heartbreak.—Shakespeare.

## THE EFFECT OF GRAIN GROWING.

Society Completely Revolutionized by Agriculture.

The cultivation of corn results in a social revolution. Corn, next to milk, is the most perfect foodstuff, but the nutriment is contained in a smaller volume. The concentration of nutriment permits of great accumulations of people, as it gives in a small space the means of feeding a considerable population, while men, nourished on milk are obliged to disperse themselves over vast spaces.

Two very important characteristics of corn are that it allows, first, great facility for storage. There is no comparison between the preservation of corn and other cereals and that of milk, fish or game. Thus the pastor, the farmer and the hunter have by no means the same facility for creating riches and for accumulating the proceeds of their special industry. No food is so readily stored as corn, witness the famous granaries of Egypt, China, Italy, etc. The facility for accumulation permits provident people to possess themselves of considerable resources, since they are not obliged to consume their harvest within a short period. They can thus capitalize their product. Second, great facility for exchange. Corn not only preserves easily, but it is infinitely divisible and travels well. The provident can utilize it for exchange, and by commerce can become rich. It is worth while to consider the immense effect of corn in history, Egypt having regular harvests, though situated between two deserts; the growing power of Russia and the Odessa corn market, and the enormous cornfields of North America.

The cultivation of corn necessitates a much longer and more difficult labor than that of garden produce. Wheat and maize especially require good soil and manure, care must be taken to select the best time for harvesting, lest the corn should get too ripe, and the weather must be carefully watched. The harvest must be got in rapidly, consequently outside help must be called in. All these difficulties and complications necessitate foresight, skill and promptitude."

Corn also develops and complicates methods of fabrication and transport. The product, like rice, is not usually consumed in the state in which it is gathered. This mode of life forces the families to be completely sedentary. Property in land tends to become more and more permanent. Trade develops. Corn is a product easy to accumulate and exchange. The families readily acquire the habit of selling their surplus and of purchasing food and other things. What a transformation has occurred from the pastoral life! The families content themselves less and less with what they produce themselves; they become partly dependent upon merchants, they are subjected to the fluctuations of the market. The hoarding of books and of writing materials is a sign of another important modification.—Prof. Alfred C. Hadden, in Knowledge.

It Plays a Prominent Part in the Tailor's Business. "It is a rare thing," said the talking man, "to find a merchant tailor who can get a 'perfect fit' in the clothes he makes. So rare, in fact, that I have sometimes thought that tailors, of all artisans, know least how to do their work right. Yet the tailor, or the cutter, rather, is not always to blame, for a perfectly cut garment may be often set askew by a careless maker, who by a crooked seam or a slight departure from the line set for his needle may throw the whole thing out of plumb. Still, a good tailor ought to know when a garment fits, and should either be able to remove its unfitness or not let it leave the shop. Speaking of the cutting part, I remember an incident that occurred once at a convention of cutters held in Cincinnati. The subject for discussion was the cutting and fitting of garments, and a testy old Scotchman had the floor. He said in effect that if your were cut to set right upon the deltoid muscle the wearer would always find it comfortable and well fitting."

"In fact," said he, "the deltoid muscle determines the fit of a coat." "Will the gentleman state what and where the deltoid muscle is?" asked a cutter on the other side of the chamber.

"The Scotchman turned on him sharply. "Sir," he said, angrily, "you claim to be a tailor and not know where the deltoid muscle is located? Don't you know, sir, that a knowledge of the human anatomy is as important to the tailor as it is to the surgeon? Do you expect to cut a garment to fit an object whose every line and curve you do not know? You might as well try to fit a plug to a hole without knowing the size of the hole. No, sir, the gentleman will not state what and where the deltoid muscle is. It is your duty, sir, to know the deltoid muscle, not mine to instruct you."

"The discussion ended there, simply because there was nobody present to carry it on, for I don't believe a man in the place except the old fellow knew anything about deltoid muscles. I know I didn't, but as soon as I got to a dictionary I looked it up, and I found that the Scotchman was right." —Washington Star.

Realism. With my forthcoming realistic novel in mind, I strolled abroad in search of color and chance upon a man drawing.

"How fortunate!" I exclaimed. "I will throw him a straw and see precisely how he chutes at it!" Nor did I forget devoutly to thank the kindly providence which permitted me thus to gain knowledge of paramount importance in my work.—Puck.